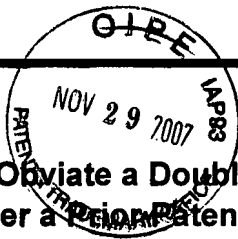


Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate a Double Patenting Rejection Over a Prior Patent



Application Number	10/670,152
Confirmation Number	2852
Filing Date	September 24, 2003
First Named Inventor	Benetti
Examiner	Philogene, Pedro
Group Art	3733
Attorney Docket No.	GUID-008CON2

The owner, Cardiothoracic Systems, Inc., of 100 percent interest in the instant application hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the instant application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, of prior Patent No. 6,199,556. The owner hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patent granted on the instant application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173 of the prior patent, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, in the event that it later: expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 CFR 1.321, has all claims canceled by a reexamination certificate, is reissued, or is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer.

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2. ☒ The undersigned is an attorney or agent of record.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge a Terminal Disclaimer fee of _____ and any other required fees including extensions of time to Deposit Account No. 50-2653. A duplicate copy is attached.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED

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